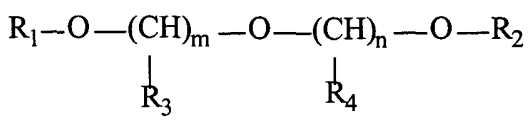
We claim:

1) A catalytic composition of matter useful in producing foam products which comprises:

a) a compound of the formula:



wherein $\mathbf{R_1}$, $\mathbf{R_2}$, $\mathbf{R_3}$, and $\mathbf{R_4}$ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, and pentyl, and any isomers of the foregoing; and **m** and **n** are each independently whole integers between 1 and 4 inclusive;

b) at least one amino compound; and

c) a reaction product formed from the reaction between formic acid and an alkaline substance;

wherein said catalytic composition is homogeneous.

2) A composition according to claim 1 wherein said reaction product is present in an effective catalytic amount for promoting the reaction between a hydroxy group of an organic polyol and an isocyanate group of an organic isocyanate contained in a mixture of polyol and isocyanate to which said catalytic composition is caused to be contacted.

3) A composition according to claim 1 wherein said alkaline substance includes a hydroxide of a chemical species selected from the group consisting of: alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, transition metals, metals of Group IV of the Periodic Table of Elements, and substituted or unsubstituted ammonium ions.

4) A composition according to claim 1 wherein said alkaline substance includes an alkoxide of a chemical species selected from the group consisting of: alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, transition metals, metals of Group IV of the Periodic Table of Elements and alkyl-substituted or unsubstituted ammonium ions.

5) A composition according to claim 1 wherein said alkaline substance includes a cation selected from the group consisting of: monovalent metal cations, and di-valent metal cations, tetravalent metal cations, and alkyl-substituted or unsubstituted ammonium ions.

6) A composition according to claim 5 wherein said monovalent metal cation is selected from the group consisting of: sodium, potassium, rubidium, and cesium.

7) A catalytic composition of matter useful in producing foam products which comprises:

a) a compound selected from the group consisting of: ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, propylene glycol, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, dipropylene glycol, and triethylene glycol;

b) at least one amino compound; and

c) a reaction product formed from the reaction between formic acid and an alkaline substance;

wherein said catalytic composition is homogeneous.

8) A composition according to claim 1 wherein said amino compound is selected from the group consisting of: primary amines, secondary amines, tertiary amines, and Mannich condensates.

9) A composition according to claim 8 wherein said amino compound is a Mannich condensate and said Mannich condensate is formed from the condensation of an alkyl phenol, formaldehyde, and an amino compound having at least one active hydrogen atom attached to a nitrogen atom.

10) The composition according to claim 9 wherein said amino compound is selected from the group consisting of: primary amines, secondary amines, and amino acids.

11) The composition according to claim 10 wherein said amino acid is selected from the group consisting of: lysine, aspartic acid, sarcosine, cysteine, proline, phenylalanine, glycine, and serine.

12) The composition according to claim 9 wherein said alkyl phenol includes at least one alkyl group having between 2 and 20 carbon atoms bonded to the benzene ring.

13) The composition according to claim 9 wherein the alkyl phenol is a mono-alkylated or di-alkylated phenol which contains at least one alkyl group selected from the group consisting of: methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, nonyl, decyl, and any structural isomers of the foregoing bonded to the benzene ring of said phenol.

14) The composition according to claim 1 wherein said acidic organic species is formic acid.

15) A process for forming a foam product which comprises the steps of:

a) providing an organic isocyanate;

b) providing a polyol; and

c) contacting at least one of said polyol or said organic isocyanate with a composition according to claim 1.

16) The process according to claim 15 wherein said foam product comprises at least one foam selected from the group consisting of: polyisocyanurate foam and polyurethane foam.

17) The process according to claim 15 wherein said polyol is selected from the group of polyether polyols, polyester polyols, or any mixture thereof.

18) The process according to claim 15 wherein said isocyanate is selected from the group consisting of: 4,4'-diphenylmethane diisocyanate, 2,4'-diphenylmethane diisocyanate, 2,2'-diphenylmethane diisocyanate, toluene diisocyanate, or a polymerized form of any of the foregoing.

19) A foam product produced in accordance with claim 15 wherein said foam is selected from the group consisting of: polyisocyanurate foams and polyurethane foams.

20) A molded article comprising a foam of claim 19.